Contact: Olga Alvarez

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(Washington, D.C.) - Congressman Albio Sires announced today that North Hudson Fire and Rescue will receive a grant in the amount of \$144,000. The funding was awarded by the Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to Firefighter Grants Program, designed to strengthen the level of preparedness and ability to respond to fire and fire related hazards. The award aims to enhance first responder ability to protect the health and safety of residents and first responder personnel.

" This grant will further ensure the outstanding performance of the members of the North Hudson Regional Fire and Rescue, a successful merger of fire departments that respond to emergencies in 5 municipalities in northern Hudson County, " said Congressman Sires. " Now more than ever, they need to be ready to face local emergencies as well as national security threats due to the department's proximity to New York City. "

North Hudson Regional Fire and Rescue serves the approximately 200,000 residents of 5 Hudson County municipalities: North Bergen, West New York, Guttenberg, Union City and Weehawken. North Hudson is the most densely populated area in the United States; it also serves as passageway to almost 50,000 tri-state residents who commute or work in northern New Jersey.

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